

Malden Historic District
(4103 Malden Drive)
Malden
Kanawha County
West Virginia

HABS No. WV-210-30

HABS
WVA,
20-MALD,
31-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Architectural and Engineering Record
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20243

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

MALDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT, 4103 Malden Drive HABS No. WV-210-30

Location: 4103 Malden Drive, Malden, Kanawha County, West Virginia
(Within the boundaries of the Malden Historic District)

Present Owner: Mrs. Turner Ratrie, Malden, West Virginia

Present Use: Dwelling

Significance: In spite of its asbestos siding, this formal house, because of its hipped platform roof (unique in Malden), is considered as making a major contribution to the ambiance of the historic district.

PART I. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION:

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This two-story house exhibits the only hipped platform roof in Malden. This particular roof type combined with the orderly, symmetrical facade and the prominent chimneys relates this building more closely to the Georgian style than is the case for any other building in the town. Remnants of other styles are to be found, as could be expected in Malden. Among these are the irregularly spaced brackets beneath the eaves. On the interior, the house is composed of a central stair hall flanked by front and rear rooms on either side for both upper and lower floors.
2. Condition of fabric. Marginally maintained.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: This house is approximately 50'-9" in width and 54'-5" in depth, having a three-bay front. The building consists of a two-story main block with a collection of one-story attachments to the west, the whole forming an ell-shaped plan.
2. Foundations: Foundations of the main block are a mixture of stone and concrete. Those of the rear additions have been covered by metal panels embossed to simulate stone and, therefore, can no longer be seen.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: Walls are of wooden construction. Originally surfaced with clapboard siding in four-inch widths, the building has been resurfaced with asbestos siding. Exterior walls are white except on the street facade, where the color is gray. Trim is white except for shutters and the entrance, where dark red is used.

4. Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc.:

A major porch having a gabled roof and a low parapet in lieu of a balustrade occurs on the north facade of the main block. A small gabled porch roof supported by simple wooden struts projects over the east entrance door.

5. Chimneys: Three brick chimneys not expressed on the exterior walls occur in the main block - two at the north wall and one at the south.

6. Openings:

- a. Doorways and doors: The major entrance on the east front consists of a six-panel wooden door flanked by side lights. An entrance on the north side of the main block has two narrow doors whose upper portions are glazed. A simple wooden panel door serves as the rear entrance.
- b. Windows and shutters: The windows are generally double-hung nine-over-six wooden sash units. Louvered shutters occur at east windows.

7. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: Three roof types occur. A hipped platform roof covers the main block. It is covered with standing-seam metal roofing which has been covered with a tar coating. A gabled roof covers that portion of the rear additions directly west of the main block, being also covered in standing-seam metal roofing, some of which is unpainted galvanized metal while the remainder has been painted red. A very minor protrusion of storage spaces along the south wall of the rear additions is covered by a flat roof. Also, the porch on the north side of the main block has a flat roof.
- b. Cornice, eaves: Broad eaves with horizontal soffit enclosures and ornamental wooden brackets occur on all four sides of the main block. All other roofs project beyond their respective walls but without the decorative brackets of the main block.

C. Site:

- 1. General setting: The entrance currently faces east onto Malden Drive. It has been reported by Mr. Cecil Lewis, who presently lives across the street, that the original entrance front was what is now the north wall.

2. Outbuildings: A single-story storage building is located in the extreme southwest corner of the site.

Prepared by James Murray Howard
Project Supervisor
Historic American Buildings Survey
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PART II. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) with funding from the West Virginia Department of Culture and History. The recording was completed under the direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS, and Kenneth L. Anderson, Principal Architect of HABS, in the HABS field office in Charleston, West Virginia. Recording was carried out during the summer of 1979 by James Murray Howard (University of Illinois), Project Supervisor; Donna White, Project Historian; and Student Architects James Barrett Garrison (Carnegie-Mellon University) and Keith Edward Soto (University of Florida). The photographs were taken by Walter Smalling, Jr., Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service Photographer.

See Malden Historic District (HABS No. WV-210), sheet 9 of 9, for elevation drawing.